

## Unit 2: Be-Attitudes

### Lesson 2.5: God Have Mercy

#### Teacher Preparation and Materials Needed:

#### Scriptural Reference:

Matthew 5:7; Matthew 18:21-35

#### Activities:

*\*Choose based on time available. Instructions and supplies listed below.*

Activity 1: Guided Activity - Mercy Detective

Activity 2: Crossword Puzzle

#### Words of the week:

ողորմութիւն - vo-ghor-mpp-tyoon - mercy

ազնութիւն - az-nuh-voo-tyoon - kindness

ներողամտութիւն - ne-rogh-a-muhd-oo-tyoon - forgiveness

#### Objective:

Students will learn that mercy means showing kindness and forgiveness even when someone does not deserve it. They will understand that God shows mercy to us and calls us to show mercy to others.

#### Moral Character Focus:

**Knowledge:** Students will learn that mercy means forgiving, helping, and choosing kindness instead of anger.

**Understanding:** Students will understand that God is merciful to us and wants us to treat others the same way.

**Application:** Students will practice mercy by forgiving others, being patient, and responding with love.

**Values:** Kindness, forgiveness, compassion, humility.

#### Memory Verse:

**“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall get mercy.”**

**- Matthew 5:7**

# Lesson

## Open with prayer:

Իմաստութիւն Յօր՝ Յիսուս, տո՛ւր ինձ իմաստութիւն, զբարիս խորհել եւ խօսել եւ գործել առաջի Քո՝ յամենայն ժամ. ի չար խորհրդոց, ի բանից եւ ի գործոց փրկեա՛ զիս. եւ ողորմեա՛ Քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս: Ամէն:

Eemasdootyoon Hor Heesoos, door eents eemasdootyoon uzparees khorel yev khosel yev kordz arachi ko hamenayn jham. Ee char khorhrtos, paneets yev kordzots prgya zees yev voghormya ko araradzots eents pazmameghees. Amen.

Wisdom of the Father, O Jesus, grant to me the wisdom to think, speak, and do that which is good in Your sight. Save me from all evil and distracting thoughts, words, and deeds. Have mercy upon your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.

*\*Wisdom Prayer, written by St. Nersess the Grace-filled (Shnorhali).*

## Lesson Body: God Have Mercy

Jesus said, *“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall get mercy.”*

Jesus teaches us that people who show mercy are truly blessed. God shows mercy to us every day. He forgives us when we make mistakes and is patient with us. Because God is merciful to us, He asks us to be merciful to others.

### What Is Mercy?

Mercy means choosing kindness when someone makes a mistake. It means forgiving instead of getting even. Mercy looks like helping someone who is struggling, even if they caused the problem. Mercy is what you show when you stop, take a breath, and decide not to be mean back. When your brother annoys you and you stay calm, that is mercy. When a friend hurts your feelings and you forgive them, that is mercy. Mercy is not about being weak. Mercy is about being strong enough to choose love.

### Bible Story: The Unforgiving Servant

Jesus once told a story to help people understand mercy.

There was a servant who owed his king a huge amount of money. It was more money than he could ever earn, even if he worked his whole life. When the king sent for him, the servant’s heart began to race. He knew he could not pay it back. He was afraid of what would happen next.

The servant fell to his knees and begged the king.

“Please be patient with me,” he cried. “I will try my best to repay you.”

The king looked at the servant and saw his fear. He knew the servant could never repay the debt. Instead of becoming angry, the king felt compassion. He did something no one expected. He forgave the entire debt and

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ներողամտութիւն  
ne-rogh-a-muhd-oo-tyoon - forgiveness

## Memory Verse:

**“Blessed are the merciful,  
for they shall get mercy.”**  
- Matthew 5:7

told the servant he was free to go.

The servant could hardly believe it. His huge debt was gone. He left the palace feeling light and joyful. He had been shown great mercy.

As the servant walked through the streets, he met another man who owed him a small amount of money. It was very little compared to what the king had just forgiven. The man asked for patience and begged for forgiveness.

But the servant forgot the mercy he had received. His heart grew hard. He became angry and refused to forgive. He showed no mercy at all.

Other servants saw what happened and were deeply troubled. They could not understand how someone who had been forgiven so much could forgive so little. They went and told the king everything.

The king called the servant back to the palace.

“I showed you mercy when you needed it most,” the king said. “You should have shown mercy to others too.”

Jesus told this story to teach us an important lesson. God shows us mercy every day. When we remember how much God has forgiven us, we are called to forgive others with the same kindness and love.

**Key Teaching Point:** God’s mercy fills our hearts so that we can share mercy with others.

## Guided Activity: Mercy Detective

**Instructions:** The teacher reads each situation aloud. Students discuss in pairs or small groups, then share with the class whether the response shows mercy and why.

### Situations to Analyze

**Situation 1:** Your friend accidentally spills juice all over your art project that you worked on for an hour. You feel frustrated, but you take a breath and say, “It’s okay. Accidents happen. Want to help me start over?”

**Situation 2:** Someone bumps into you hard in the hallway and doesn’t apologize. You feel angry and bump them back on purpose.

**Situation 3:** Your sibling borrowed your favorite book without asking and accidentally ripped a page. They feel terrible and start crying. Even though you’re upset, you say, “I’m disappointed, but I forgive you. Let’s tape it together.”

**Situation 4:** A classmate laughs at your wrong answer during class. Later, when they get an answer wrong, you laugh loudly and say, “See how it feels?”

**Situation 5:** Your teammate makes a mistake that costs your team the game. Everyone is upset. You could blame them, but instead you say, “We win and lose together. You tried your best.”

### Deeper Discussion

After identifying which responses show mercy, ask students:

1. What emotions might the person be feeling before they chose mercy (or didn’t)?
2. What makes mercy different from just ignoring the problem?
3. In situations where mercy was shown, what might happen next? What about in situations where it wasn’t?
4. Can you show mercy and still feel hurt or upset? (Yes! Mercy doesn’t erase your feelings.)

## Skill Practice: The Mercy Choice Framework

Mercy isn’t automatic. It’s a choice we make, often when it’s really hard. Here’s a framework in steps to help:

### Step 1: PAUSE

1. Take a slow, deep breath
2. Count to five silently
3. Give yourself permission to feel upset, angry, or hurt

### Step 2: PERSPECTIVE

1. Ask yourself: "Have I ever made a mistake like this?"
2. Think: "What might be going on in their life that I don't know about?"
3. Remember: "Nobody's perfect, including me"

### Step 3: PRAY (or Reflect)

1. Silently ask: "What would Jesus do in this moment?"
2. Think: "How do I want to be treated when I mess up?"
3. Consider: "What choice will bring peace instead of more hurt?"

### Step 4: PROCEED with Mercy

1. Choose words that show grace
2. Decide on an action that heals instead of harms
3. Remember that mercy is strength, not weakness

## Role Play Scenarios

Students work in groups of 3-4. One person faces the scenario, others observe and give feedback.

**Scenario A:** Your best friend promises to sit with you at lunch but sits with someone else instead. You feel left out and embarrassed. When they come to talk to you later, what do you do?

**Scenario B:** You let a classmate borrow your colored pencils. They return them with several broken tips and don't seem to care. How do you respond?

**Scenario C:** During group work, one member doesn't do their part and your group gets a lower grade. The teacher asks what happened. What do you say?

**Scenario D:** Someone spreads a rumor about you that isn't true. You find out who started it. What's your next move?

After each role play, discuss:

- Which step was hardest? Why?
- What helped the person choose mercy?
- What could have made it easier?

#### Mercy IS:

- Choosing love and forgiveness even when it's hard
- Recognizing that everyone makes mistakes, including you
- Breaking the cycle of hurt by responding with grace
- Strength that takes courage and self-control
- Treating others the way you hope to be treated

#### Mercy is NOT:

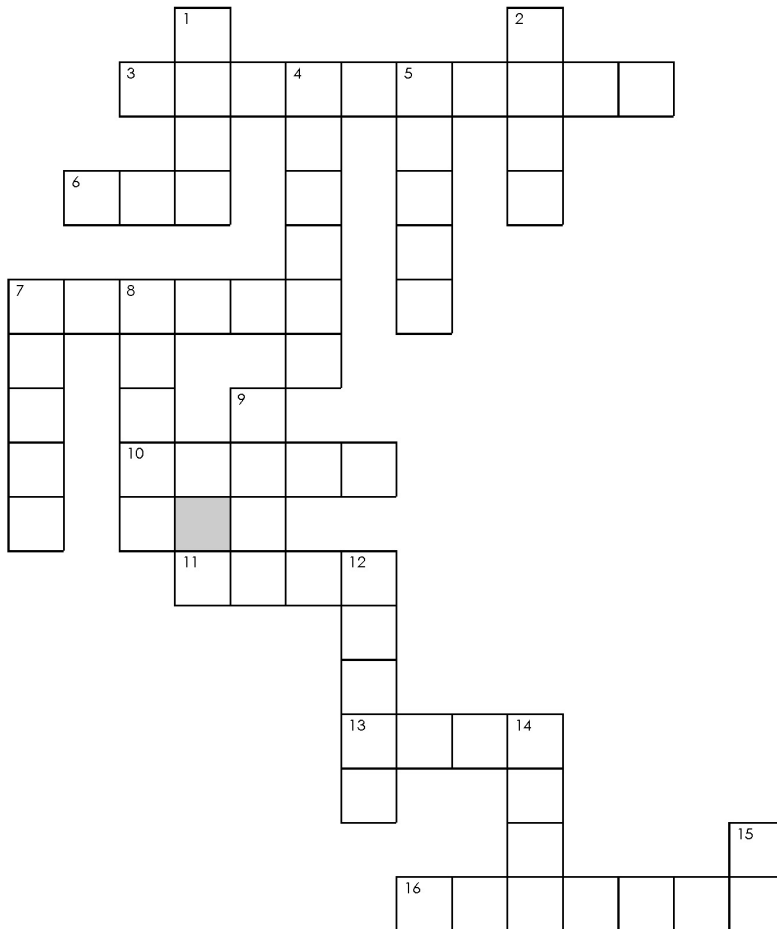
- Saying that wrong behavior is okay
- Letting people hurt you repeatedly without consequences
- Pretending you're not hurt when you are
- Weakness or being "soft"
- Required when someone keeps hurting you

**Important to remember:** Mercy doesn't mean staying in an unsafe situation. If someone is hurting you physically or emotionally in serious ways, it's right to tell a trusted adult and get help. You can forgive someone from a safe distance.

## Activity 2: Crossword Puzzle

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mercy**



**Across:** →

- 3. Showing love to others
- 6. Creator of the universe
- 7. Not being proud
- 10. Where Jesus showed the greatest mercy
- 11. To care for someone who is in need
- 13. To look after others like God does
- 16. What Jesus wants us to do

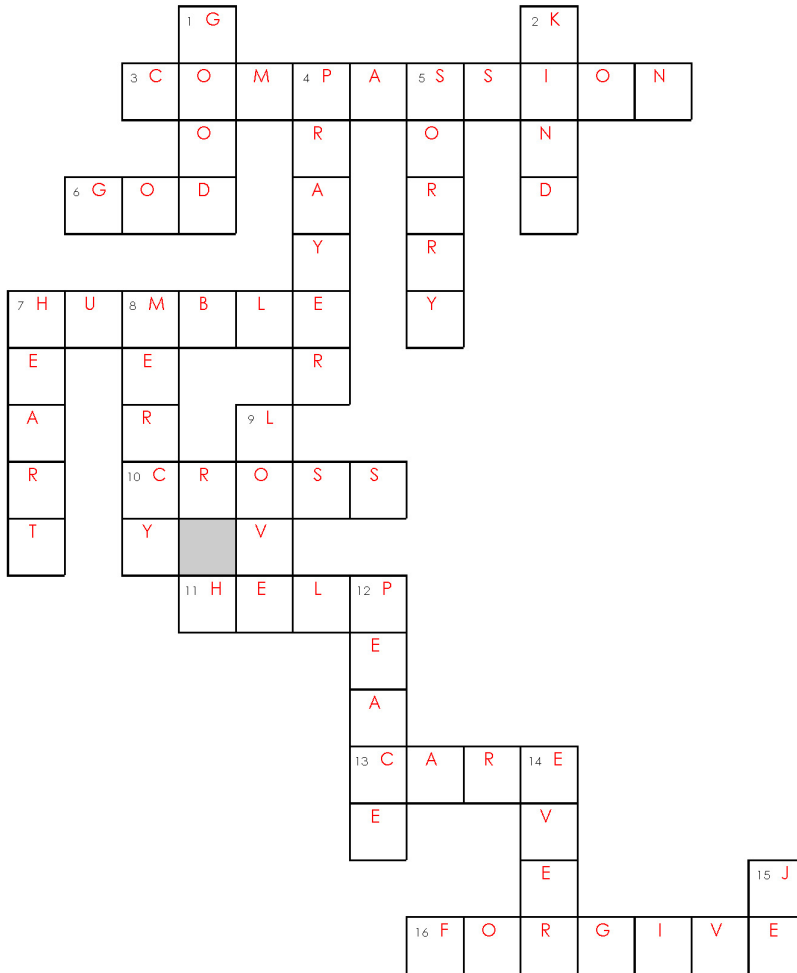
**Down:** ↓

- 1. Choosing what pleases God
- 2. What we must be to others
- 4. How we talk to God
- 5. What we say when we did wrong
- 7. the place inside us where kindness begins
- 8. Choosing kindness
- 9. Not hate
- 12. What fills our hearts when we forgive
- 14. Whom we are suppose to help
- 15. Our Lord and Savior

Created using the Crossword Puzzle Generator on  
Super Teacher Worksheets ([www.superteacherworksheets.com](http://www.superteacherworksheets.com))

SOLUTION

**Mercy**



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# Review

## Memory Verse Review:

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall get mercy.” (Matthew 5:7)

## Words of the Week Review:

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## Lesson Review Questions:

1. What does mercy mean? (*Choosing kindness and forgiveness instead of getting even*)
2. Who teaches us to be merciful? (*Jesus*)
3. What did the king do for the servant who owed a huge debt? (*He forgave the debt*)
4. What mistake did the unforgiving servant make? (*He refused to show mercy to someone else*)
5. How can you show mercy this week? (*By forgiving, helping, or choosing kind words*)

## Life Application

### What are we going to do with what we have learned today?

Mercy is something we practice in everyday moments. When someone hurts your feelings, you can choose to forgive instead of getting even. When a friend makes a mistake, you can help instead of blaming. When you feel angry, you can pause and choose kind words. Each time you show mercy, you are living like Jesus and sharing the love God has already shown you.

\* *Departing Prayer, written by St. Nersess the Grace-filled (Shnorhali).*

### Close with prayer:

Պահապան ամենայնի Քրիստոս, աջ Քո հովանի լիցի ի վերայ իմ, ի տուէ եւ ի գիշերի, ի նստիլ ի տան, ի գնալ ի ճանապարհ, ի ննջել եւ ի յառնել, զի մի երբեք սասանեցայց եւ ողորմեա՛ Քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս: Ամէն

Bahaban amenayn Kreesdos, ach Ko hovanee leetsee ee vera eem; ee dveh yev ee keesheree, ee nsdeel ee dan, ee knal ee janabarh, ee nunchel yev ee harnel, zee mee yerpek sasanetsayts yev vog-hormya Ko araradzots yev eents pazmamyghees. Amen.

O Christ, guardian of all, let Your right hand guard and shelter me, by day and by night, at home and abroad, in sleeping and in waking, that I may never stumble. Have mercy upon Your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.